MIT's **Oldest and Largest** Newspaper



Partly cloudy SUN: 60°F | 44°F

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UA seeks to halt new dining plan process

In emergency session, students express dissatisfaction at mandatory dining

> and Maggie Lloyd STAFF WRITERS

At an emergency meeting Wednesday night, the Undergraduate Association (UA) unanimously passed a bill urging Chancellor Phillip Clay "to intervene by halting" the approval process for the new dining plan. The bill, 42 U.A.S E1.1, argued that the process by which the plan was developed was not transparent, respectful, thorough, or fair.

The meeting came in response to a petition initiated by Andres A. Romero '14 and signed by more than five percent of the undergraduate student population; according to the UA Constitution, an emergency meeting must be held within 96 hours of the receipt of such a petition. This followed a recent UA survey that revealed strong opposition to the new dining plan, designed by the House Dining Advisory Group (HDAG) last

The plan introduces all-you-caneat (AYCE) breakfast and dinner seven days a week at dining halls and requires students in McCormick, Baker, Next, and Simmons to sign up for a 10-, 12-, or 14-meal-per-week plan. The plans, which are divided equally between breakfast and dinner, will cost students between \$2,900 and \$3,800 a year. Among those who live in dorms with dining halls, juniors and seniors will be able to choose any of the plans whereas sophomores will have to choose between the 12- and 14-meal-per-week plans and freshmen will have to participate in the 14-meal-per-week plan. Students in other dorms can opt in to any of the plans or pay for each meal individually.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) presented to the contractors will be finalized next week.

At least 215 students signed a petition that states, "The new dining plan needs an immediate reform, as it will lead to financial and cultural problems in all dorms." Romero, who resides in Next, said he was convinced to write the petition because his friends are leaving due to the cost of the new dining plan. Romero said they demand "the dining plan be either non-compulsory or revised to significantly cut costs."

Dining unrest, Page 11



At an emergency Undergraduate Association meeting on Wednesday, students and senators discuss the proposed mandatory dining plan for fall 2011. A survey conducted by the UA showed that a signifi-

An elephant walk down Mass. Ave



ELEPHANTS, ELEPHANTS - Nine Asian elephants (and friends!) from the Barnum and Bailey Circus march down Mass. Ave on Tuesday afternoon on their way to the TD Garden in Boston.

MIT to strengthen ties to China

Group outlines work with China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan

By Anne Cai and Niki Castle

The MIT-Greater China Strategy Working Group has released a report setting forth guidelines and recommendations for the future of MIT's relationship with mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. The Working Group was chaired by Victor Zue, Professor of EECS and Director of CSAIL.

 $MIT\,has\,raised\,funding\,for\,a\,new$ chair in study of Chinese culture, as well as provided the Global Seed Fund in conjunction with MISTI to send students abroad. However, for any of this to effectively occur, knowledge of Chinese language and culture is a necessity.

"Language in particular is the basis," said Associate Provost Philip S. Khoury. "We're working on making our Chinese program more powerful and providing four full years of the language, as our students can't afford the time to go take Chinese language courses at Harvard."

The group was founded in 200

by Khoury. However, MIT has had a long history with Greater China. MIT's relationship with China dates back to 1876, when the Chinese government sent students to MIT. The relationship has continued for over a century as students and professors have spent time learning and working in both countries.

"The working group recommendations didn't create something entirely new; we're accelerating what that was," Khoury said. MIT has taken many actions to further its connection with Greater China and increase mutual awareness.

'We think that there's a certain lack of awareness on both sides," Zue said. "One of the big things we've done so far is to consolidate all of MIT's China-related activities. We've created a portal to highlight them, and it can be accessed on our website." Through more easily accessible resources like this, people of the MIT community are encouraged to learn different perspectives of China.

Additionally,

Group has established the MIT-China Forum, bringing in prominent people to speak to the MIT community four times a year. Last Thursday, Charles Zhu PhD '93 spoke on campus in an event open to the public. Zhu is the founder, Chairman, and current CEO of Sohu.com, and former speakers in the MIT-China Forum also include Zhou Wenzhong, then the Chinese Ambassador to the United States.

These individuals are a sample of the prominent people MIT hopes to engage in the liaison with Greater China.

In addition to making language resources available to those who want them, studying culture is an essential part of the working group's goal. MIT's collaboration with Greater China also extends to companies such as Quanta Com-

Quanta's chairman and CEO Barry Lam, electrical engineer and entrepreneur, expresses personal

MIT-China, Page 12

Tang trial restarts in **December**

Anna L. Tang, the former Wellesley student who stabbed Wolfe B. Styke '10 in October 2007, is set to go to trial in December. At a status conference last Friday, the

trial was confirmed for December 1-3. The Commonwealth asked the judge last Friday to reconsider permitting Tang to relocate from Framingham, Mass., to Brighton, Mass., a move she has already

made. The judge denied the motion. The Commonwealth made the request on behalf of Styke, said spokeswoman Jessica Venezia Pastore.

Tang is charged with assault with intent to murder, assault to cause bodily harm, and home invasion. She was mentally unwell at the time of the event, according to courtroom statements, and is under house arrest. She may leave her Brighton home for limited purposes, including attending a weekly class at Boston University.

- John A. Hawkinson

IN SHORT

Happy birthday, Media Lab! MIT Media Lab is having its 25th anniversary celebration today from 8:30 a.m. to midnight. An agenda of today's events, which includes an open house and interactive exhibits, can be found at http:// www.media.mit.edu/press/event/25th-anniversary.

Beaver Madness is tonight! Head over to Rockwell Cage to watch the women's volleyball game, which will be followed by free food, drinks, t-shirts, performances by the Logarhythms and Ridonkulous, and a shooting competition featuring MIT faculty at 9 p.m.

As part of National Coming Out Week, Brooklyn-based musician and songwriter Julia Weldon will be performing tonight in 32-123, 8-10 p.m. Weldon will also be hosting a Q&A session about life as a queer musician.

After a month-long tour promoting his new album, Like Water, MIT alum Levi Schmidt '10 will be hosting a songwriting workshop starting at 6 p.m. today in Lobdell, followed by a performance at 8 p.m.

IT GETS BETTER

Dan Savage's message to LGBT youth: Hang in there, life gets better. OPN, p. 5

CLIMATE NOT WORTH THE FIGHT

The U.S. shouldn't burden itself with battling global warming. OPN, p. 5



SOCIAL NETWORK DAZZLES

Yes, everybody loved this film, but that's because director David Fincher did a damn good

ARTS, p. 6



FUNNY STORY IS... FUNNY-WEIRD

Overstressed prep school kid checks himself into a psychiatric ward — with Zach Galifianakis. ARTS, p. 7

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For the Tea Party, influence beyond mere numbers

Enough Tea Party-supported candidates are running strongly in competitive and Republican-leaning congressional races that the movement stands a good chance of establishing a sizeable caucus to push its agenda in the House and the Senate, according to a New York Times analysis.

With a little more than two weeks until Election Day, thirtythree Tea Party-backed candidates are in tossup races or running in House districts that are solidly or leaning Republican, and eight stand a good or better chance of winning Senate seats.

While the numbers are relatively small, they could exert outsize influence, putting pressure on Republican leaders to carry out promises to significantly cut spending and taxes, to repeal health care legislation and financial regulations passed this year, and to phase out Social Security and Medicare in favor of personal savings accounts. Still, the bulk of the Tea Party candidates are running in districts that are solidly Democratic, meaning that most Tea Party efforts — no matter how energetic - are likely to register as basically a protest vote.

-Kate Zernike, The New York Times

Plug-in cars pose a riddle for **EPA** on fuel economy

DETROIT — About two months before two new plug-in cars go on sale in the United States, the federal government is struggling with how to rate the fuel economy of mass-market plug-in

How the Environmental Protection Agency rates the two cars, the Chevrolet Volt and Nissan Leaf, could have a big influence on consumers' perceptions of vehicles that run on electricity. General Motors, which makes the Volt, and Nissan are anxiously awaiting the agency's decision as they start production of the cars and complete marketing plans for rollouts in December.

Providing the customary city and highway miles-per-gallon information would make little sense for the Volt, which can drive 25 to 50 miles on battery power before its gas engine kicks on, and even less so for the Leaf, which is powered only by a rechargeable battery.

The Volt and Leaf must be rated by the EPA and have those ratings shown on window labels before they are sold.

—Nick Bunkley and Bill Vlasic, The New York Times

Europe to propose a ban on cloning farm animals

BRUSSELS — European Union regulators are preparing to propose rules on cloned livestock that would be stronger than those in the United States with regard to actual clones. But the rules would seek to avoid trade tensions by allowing imports of food produced from the offspring of clones as well as imports of semen and embryos from clones for breeding.

The European Commission's report, which is expected Tuesday, will recommend a ban on the cloning of farm animals in Europe for five years, and on importing live clones, according to a person briefed on the report who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The rules, which would replace the current patchwork of legislation and guidelines in the European Union, are intended to address growing unease in Europe about cloning and food after a handful of breeders in Switzerland, Britain and possibly other countries imported semen and embryos from clones or their progeny from the United States to breed more productive

Animal welfare advocates contend that cloning leads to suffering, including difficult births. They also say cloned animals can face health problems later.

—James Kanter, The New York Times

Rescued miners showered with gifts, vacation offers

By Alexei Barrionuevo THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN JOSE MINE, Chile — Most of the 33 rescued miners were still in a hospital about an hour away Thursday. But when they feel stronger, they may return to lives filled with gifts, rich offers to tell their stories and opportunities to see the world.

Leonardo Farkas, a Chilean businessman, has already written checks of 5 million pesos, or about \$10,460, to each of the miners.

"The idea is that they shouldn't be stressed while looking for new jobs," said Rodrigo Mundaca, a spokesman for Farkas.

Workers at the state mining company Codelco said they would chip in about \$600. While a relatively high-paying profession here, a successful miner in Chile usually cannot expect much more than about \$2,000 a month in salary.

Beyond the money, a range of other promised gifts have flooded in. A Greek mining company, ELM-IN Hellenic Mining Enterprises, has offered a free one-week vacation to Greece for each miner and a companion, so that they could 'enjoy our sun and sea" after their long ordeal.

"It was our employees' idea, as they work under similar conditions to the Chileans and immediately felt solidarity with them," said the company's managing director, Lyberis Polychronopoulos.

Family members of the rescued miners said they had also been invited by two European soccer teams, Manchester United and Real Madrid, to visit their stadiums in Britain and Spain. Real Madrid had already sent 33 jerseys — signed by players and with the words "Have strength, miners" printed on them to the miners while they were trapped below. One of the miners, Franklin Lobos, once played professionally.

Then there are other goodies, like the latest-generation iPod Touch models that Apple says it has sent to each miner. And, of course, the miners get to keep the Oakley sunglasses they wore while leaving the mine to protect their light-deprived eyes, according to

Alejandro Pino, an official who helped prepare the miners before their rescue.

Edison Pena, an Elvis fanatic among the miners, may get to see the King.

Graceland and the Memphis Convention & Visitors Bureau extended invitations for him and a loved one to visit Elvis' home in Memphis. Pena, 34, had officials send down Elvis music through the narrow borehole so he could lead the other miners in sing-alongs.

Pena, who earned the nickname the Runner for jogging three to six miles a day through the mine tunnels during his captivity, could also swing up to New York for the New York City Marathon on Nov. 7.

The New York Road Runners, the group that directs the marathon, said Thursday that they hoped to bring Pena to town to watch the race — or to participate, if he is up for it.

"He has taken the phrase 'runner for life' to a whole new level," said Mary Wittenberg, the chief executive of New York Road Runners, in an e-mail.

U.S. uses attacks to nudge Taliban toward a deal, break stalemate

By Dexter Filkins THE NEW YORK TIMES

KABUL, Afghanistan - Airstrikes on Taliban insurgents have risen sharply here over the past four months, the latest piece in what appears to be a coordinated effort by U.S. commanders to bleed the insurgency and pressure its leaders to

U.S. pilots pounded the Taliban with 2,100 bombs or missiles from June through September, with 700 in September alone, Air Force officers here said Thursday. That is an increase of nearly 50 percent over the same period last year, records show.

negotiate an end to the war.

The stepped-up air campaign is part of what appears to be an intensifying U.S. effort, orchestrated by Gen. David H. Petraeus, to break the military stalemate here as pressure intensifies at home to bring the nine-year-old war to an end. In recent weeks, Petraeus has increased raids by Special Forces units and launched large operations to clear territory of Taliban militants.

And it seems increasingly clear that he is partly using the attacks to expand a parallel path to the end of the war: a U.S.-led diplomatic initiative, very much in its infancy but ultimately aimed at persuading the Taliban — or large parts of the movement - to make peace with the Afghan government.

In recent weeks, U.S. officials have spoken approvingly in public of new contacts between Taliban leaders and the Afghan government. On Wednesday they acknowledged their active involvement by helping Taliban leaders travel to Kabul to

On the diplomatic front, Afghan leaders said Thursday that they were seeing what they believed were the first positive signs from the Taliban. In a news conference in Kabul, Burhanuddin Rabbani, the leader

of a council charged with making peace, said that discussions with Taliban leaders - carried out through third parties — were under way.

"The Taliban have not rejected peace completely," said Rabbani, a former Afghan president. They want the talks "to take place," he added.

For all the efforts, U.S. and Afghan officials were quick to play down any suggestion that peace was at hand - or even remotely near. Most of the Taliban leaders, if not the movement's foot soldiers, have given no sign that they are willing to make any sort of deal.

Even on the battlefield, there are few indications that the large increase in firepower ordered by President Barack Obama is having the intended effect. With the U.S.led war moving through its bloodiest phase since 2001, more U.S. and NATO soldiers have been killed this year than at any time since the war

WEATHER

Temperatures take a tumble today

By Vince Agard

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A low pressure system that was located vesterday in the Carolinas will move up the Atlantic coast today, bringing with it rain, high winds, and plunging temperatures. While temperatures will be in the high 50s (°F) this morning, the passage of the cold front associated with this storm will cause temperatures to drop sharply throughout the day, eventually falling into the lower 40s (°F) by early evening.

Combined with rain and gusty winds, deteriorating conditions will make for rather miserable weather this afternoon and eve-

For tomorrow, sunshine will return in part, with temperatures rising back into the 50s (°F). However, blustery winds will stick around, as the storm moves slowly out to sea. This type of storm, known as a nor'easter, will become more common as winter approaches, and could be responsible for heavy snowfalls later in the year.

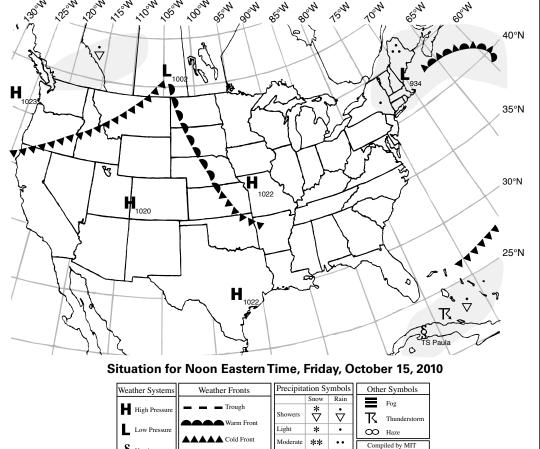
Extended Forecast

Today: Rainy and windy, with temperatures falling from the high 50s °F (14°C) to the low 40s °F (6°C) throughout the day. West winds at 15-20 mph, gusting up to

Tonight: Cloudy and windy, low 42°F (6°C). West winds at 15-25 mph, gusting up to 40 mph.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and windy, high 56 °F (13°C). Northwest winds at 15-25 mph, gusting up to 40 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, highs near 60 °F (16°C). Monday: Sunny, highs near 60 °F (16°C)



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipita	ation Sy	mbols	Othe	r Symbols	
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Administration seeks stay of ruling that halted 'Don't Ask'

By Charlie Savage
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Saying it will appeal a ruling striking down the law that bans gay men and lesbians from serving openly in the U.S. military, the Obama administration Thursday asked the federal judge who issued the ruling for an emergency stay of her decision.

In a 48-page court filing, Clifford L. Stanley, the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, argued that the military, particularly in wartime, should not be required to "suddenly and immediately restructure a major personnel policy that has been in place for years"

Stanley said the injunction

would disrupt efforts to prepare for a more orderly repeal of the policy.

Stanley's declaration was the centerpiece of a set of administration filings before Judge Virginia A. Phillips of U.S. District Court. Last month, she declared the "don't ask, don't tell" law to be unconstitutional, and earlier this week she issued an injunction requiring the military to stop enforcing it immediately.

The Log Cabin Republicans, the group that brought the lawsuit against the policy, vowed to fight the administration's appeal of Phillips' ruling before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the request for an emergency stay of the injunction.

"We are not surprised by the government's action, as it repeats the

broken promises and empty words from President Obama avowing to end 'don't ask, don't tell' while at the same directing his Justice Department to defend this unconstitutional policy," said Dan Woods, a lawyer representing the group. "Now that the government has filed a request for a stay, we will oppose it vigorously because brave, patriotic gays and lesbians are serving in our armed forces to fight for all of our constitutional rights while the government is denying them theirs."

Obama campaigned against the "don't ask, don't tell" law and has asked Congress to repeal it, but his efforts have been criticized as being too slow and insufficient by supporters of equal rights for gay men and lesbians.

Targeting of 'closed' professions alarms some Greek workers

By Suzanne Daley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ATHENS, Greece — Antonios Avgerinos, 59, a retired army pharmacist, always wanted his own pharmacy here. And why not? Greek law ensures that pharmacists get a 35 percent profit on all drugs sold, even over-the-counter medications

But Greek law also limits just about everything else about pharmacies. They must be at least 820 feet apart and have a likely market of no fewer than 1,500 residents. To break into the business, an aspiring pharmacist generally has to buy a license from a retiring one. That often costs upward of \$400,000.

"It is an absurd system," Avgerinos said recently. "But it has been that way my whole life."

Maybe not for much longer.

As the government of Prime Minster George Papandreou struggles to get the nation's financial house in order — reducing the size of its civil service, chasing after tax evaders and overhauling its pension system — it has also begun to tackle a much less talked about problem:

the cozy system of "closed professions" that has existed here for decades, costing the economy billions of dollars a year.

These efforts have prompted almost weekly strikes in the past few months from interest groups firmly opposed to breaking down the barriers to entry in lucrative professional niches. But experts say that much is at stake: Greece's ability to service its tremendous debt to other European countries and avoid default rests on the government's ability to inject more competition and dynamism into its sclerotic economy.

Local food becomes a priority at Wal-Mart

The local-and-sustainable food movement has spread to the nation's largest retailer.

Wal-Mart Stores announced a program Thursday that focuses on sustainable agriculture among its suppliers as it tries to reduce its overall environmental impact.

The program is intended to put more locally grown food in the company's U.S. stores, invest in training and infrastructure for small and medium-size farmers, particularly in emerging markets, and begin to measure how efficiently large suppliers grow and get their produce into stores.

Advocates of environmentally sustainable farming said the announcement was significant because of Wal-Mart's size and because it would give small farmers a chance at Wal-Mart's business. But they questioned how "local" a \$405 billion company with 2 million employees — more than the populations of Alaska, Wyoming and Vermont combined — could be.

Given that Wal-Mart is the world's largest grocer, with one of the biggest food supply chains, any change it makes will have wide implications. Wal-Mart said that it expected it would meet the goals by the end of 2015.

In the United States, Wal-Mart plans to double the percentage of locally grown produce it sells to 9 percent. Wal-Mart defines local produce as that grown and sold in the same state.

Still, the program is far less ambitious than in some other countries — in Canada, for instance, Wal-Mart expects to buy 30 percent of its produce locally by the end of 2013, and, when local produce is available, increase that to 100 percent.

-Stephanie Clifford, The New York Times

U.S. trade deficit widens as gap with China reaches record

The U.S. trade deficit widened in August, with the politically sensitive imbalance with China reaching its highest mark on record, according to government figures released Thursday.

The trade deficit grew to \$46.3 billion, up from a revised \$42.6 billion in July and exceeding forecasts for a gap of around \$44 billion. The deficit with China accounted for \$28 billion of the August shortfall, up from \$25.9 billion the month before.

The widening gap with China comes amid rising concerns in Washington about China's trade dominance and its effect on the global economic recovery. The Obama administration and some lawmakers, hoping to temper Chinese exports by making them more expensive, are pressing China to allow its currency to appreciate more quickly.

With a high unemployment rate in the United States, trade and currency issues with China have become a particularly sensitive topic before the midterm elections, with some members of Congress threatening to impose import tariffs on China.

—Christine Hauser, The New York Times

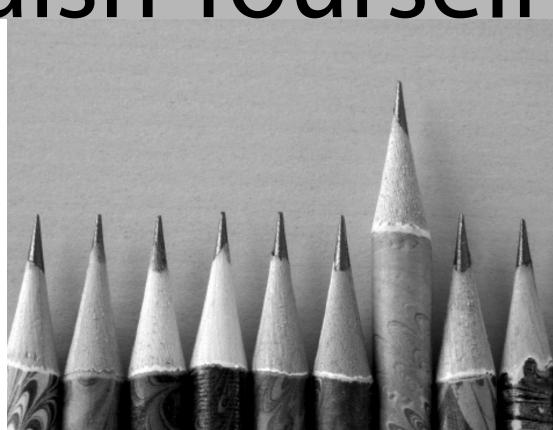
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It is time to resolve this injustice

Editor's note: This is an open letter addressed to President Hockfield.

I appreciate your devotion to MIT and the leadership you provide. No doubt there are many things demanding your time. I would like to suggest that the PBE issue has reached a critical point, and your brief involvement is now necessary. There is a moral obligation here to do the right thing as this is significantly affecting many lives.

The toll exacted on the PBE undergraduates and its alumni already far exceeds any supposed infraction. The real crime here is that an outrageous punishment imposed through a clearly corrupt process is being allowed to stand. It is a blot on MIT's reputation. It is not too late to remove that blot, but it is at a point where if it is allowed to stand any longer, the stain will not just set, it will spread. I appreciate that this is a complex issue, and understand your hesitation in getting involved, but the need for action from you is clear. I would greatly appreciate your efforts on behalf of my brothers.

If you were to simply suggest that through whatever means necessary, the prior judgment be retracted and a proper process be initiated to address the alleged infraction, the lives of our undergraduates could get back on track and they would be able to start to focus again on their academics rather than having to worry about getting thrown out of their beloved home

-Daniel Theobald, Phi Beta Epsilon '93 President and CTO, Vecna Technologies, Inc.

Proposed dining plan must be changed

The new dining plan will require students in Baker, Simmons, McCormick and Next House to pay \$3,800 a year for all-vou-can-eat hot breakfasts and dinners. Upperclassman can opt for slightly reduced plans. For example, seniors and juniors are judged old enough to have the option of only prepaying five breakfasts and dinners a week, for \$2,900.

The current plan requires students in dining dorms to pay \$600 a year for halfprice dinners. The House Dining Advisory Group (HDAG) wants to change it ostensibly because House Dining currently relies on subsidies from MIT, equal to about \$140 per undergraduate (of which about a third live in a dining hall). But instead of raising dinner costs a little or improving efficiency, the HDAG wants to start charging each student thousands of dollars. Students don't want this — in a recent student life survey, about half of students in dining dorms knew about the new dining plan, and of these only 8% approved of it. Why then is

MIT planning to roll out this mandatory dining plan? To look after students, those helpless adults who don't know how to feed themselves properly.

Consider the breakfast component of the plan. I'm a freshman. My breakfast consists of healthy cereal, milk and fruit. This costs me \$1 a day and a weekly walk to the grocery store. Eating it in my room is very convenient — I can wake up at 10:50, eat, and go to my 11 a.m. class. House dining breakfasts would simply make my breakfast cost ten times as much, and give me nothing extra. There is no typical case, but students get up at a wide range of times, making house breakfasts often unusable. Plus, many already have easy ways of eating nutritiously, making house breakfasts unnecessary. Being required to pay thousands of dollars a year for the option of getting early morning pancakes at House Dining is, for the overwhelming majority of students, absolutely ridiculous.

The dinner portion of the plan is also broken. Already, nearly all students lose money on the \$600 plan, because they sometimes prefer to eat at their FSILG, prepare food themselves, or go out and eat somewhere exciting. The new plan would simply add on a couple thousand dollars to the money students are already losing, or make them eat worse food.

HDAG should force the catering companies that provide house dining to conform to student interests, not the other way around.

–Nils Molina '14

Global warming not worth the fight

The United States would gain little in trying to forestall climate change

By Keith Yost

STAFF COLUMNIST

Global warming is real. It is predominantly anthropogenic. Left unchecked, it will likely warm the earth by 3-7 C by the end of the century. What should the United States do about it?

Very little, if anything at all.

As economists, we are inclined to take the vantage point of the benevolent dictator, that omnific individual with his hands upon all of the policy levers available to the state. When placed in such a position, the question of how to respond to global warming is answered by performing a simple comparison: does x, the cost of optimally mitigating carbon emissions, exceed y, the benefit of that carbon mitigation? Where the answer is yes, the global carbon mitigation effort remains rightfully nascent, where the answer is no, it springs up and becomes law with a just and sudden force.

H.L. Mencken once wrote, "Explanations exist; they have existed for all times, for there is always an well-known solution to every human problem — neat, plausible, and wrong." Such is the economist's explanation of climate change.

Global warming is a tragedy of the commons, carbon emissions are a negative externality, and reducing CO2 in the atmosphere is a global public good. These types of problems have been well-studied by economists, and solutions to them are known. Unfortunately, these solutions require a sovereign power to enact them, and in this world there is no global power to enforce economically optimal solutions, no benevolent dictator, no organ of international government capable of superceding national sovereignty and its attendant self-interest. The international system is not cooperative — it is best defined as anarchic and follows the Thucydidean maxim: the strong do as they can... the weak suffer as they must.

Instead of thinking as economists, we should think as international relations realists. In the realist school of thought, a man comports with another's will only in proportion to the cudgel wielded over his head. We will not, solely through moral suasion, convince others to act against their own national

Countless man-hours of scientists and economists have gone into trying to estimate the costs and benefits of climate change mitigation. Yet the real question is not whether y is greater than x, but rather whether it is greater than x + z, where z is the cost of enforcing an agreed upon reduction in carbon emissions. This is the minimum threshold that must be passed before any action is possible, and the chances of passing it in the near future are slim: not in least part because we lack the technology to monitor the emissions of other countries. But even if we did have the technology, the nature of the problem makes the challenge nearly impossible. Suppose two nations Alpha and Beta, agree to limit their emissions, and suppose further that it is cheaper for Alpha to reduce its emissions in the present while it is cheaper for Beta to limit its emissions in the future. What prevents Beta from reneging on its agreement after Alpha has already committed to a reduction? The act of punishing a defector, whether it comes in the form of a trade sanction or other action, is itself a public good that carries some cost to the punisher.

The sound and the fury that has characterized the public discourse on global warming often obscures a basic economic fact: we are in the situation we are in because it requires fewer resources to generate electricity with coal or propel automobiles with petroleum than it does to accomplish those same goals with solar cells and biofuels. The "green economy" our politicians have placed on a pedestal is not an improvement over our existing one — there is no gain to be had in producing with the effort of three men what we previously accomplished with two. We should tolerate this inefficiency only insofar as it helps us avoid some other, greater

There are many who would have us act unilaterally, who claim we will gain some sort of "competitive edge" over China and the rest of the world by pursuing national policies of innovation or economic re-engineering. Through the magic of innovation, we will improve our economy, gain power relative to the rest of the world, and save the environment all in one stroke. This is nonsense.

Firstly, it misunderstands international trade. Our economic well-being is independent of Chinese productivity. The idea that other nations will "steal our jobs" or oth-

Global warming, Page 5

CORRECTIONS

The caption for the Tuesday's photo of the women's rugby game misstated the final scorekeeping error, the official score at the time the game ended was 43-19, but the correct

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Plotkin, Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon, Contributing Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, and Advisory Board member Andrew T. Lukmann.

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It gets better

Campaign for gay teenagers bridges a generational gap

By Andy Liang

In an ideal world, the "It Gets Better" campaign would not need to exist. In an ideal world, we would not see teen suicide reports happening weekly. In an ideal world, every child would grow up happy and healthy.

In an unideal world, bullying happens; it happens in almost every school.

This is where the "It Gets Better" campaign" comes in.

The project was launched by advice columnist Dan Savage in response to the recent string of suicides caused by anti-gay bullying. The most recent suicide victim was Rutgers freshman Tyler Clementi. He jumped off the George Washington Bridge because his roommate allegedly videotaped him having an intimate moment with another male student. The tape was posted live on the internet.

In another case, Asher Brown, 13, shot himself in the head because he could not take being called gay, being mocked, and being pushed down the stairs anymore. Brown's parents had filed complaints, but they fell on deaf ears. Altogether there were five counts of teen suicide from anti-gay bullying within the month of September alone. The "It Gets Better Campaign" works to undo the bullying and to become the beacon of hope for gay teens everywhere.

From Joe Jonas, to Anne Hathaway, to Jason Derulo, celebrities all over are collaborating to build up the "It Gets Better" campaign. The campaign consists of PSA-style messages on Youtube telling gay teens that suicide is not worth contemplating when life

will get hetter

Celebrities like Ellen Degeneres got upclose and personal. "We can't let intolerance and ignorance take another kid's life. And I want anyone who feels different and alone to know that I know how you feel. And there is help out there." She released that statement on her show. Other celebrities shared their stories of having been bullied when young. These messages are powerful. They have not only the potential to save teens' lives but to bridge an entire generation gap.

Teens everywhere now are more aware of how cognizant the older generation is of their struggles. These videos help adults communicate effectively to gay teens. For too long, have adults been kept away from approaching gay teens to counsel them because of the stigma that adults can instill homosexuality into the teens' minds, or make the teens choose to be gay. This is why many high school and middle school counselors choose to avert the topics on sexuality. The Professional School of Counseling has released multiple studies reporting that homonegativity is prevalent among school counselors.

The "It Gets Better" campaign helps undo this. Adults are finally reaching out to gay teens. But it gets better. Teens are reciprocating by making their own "It Gets Better" videos to reach out to their peers.

The Rainbow Lounge, MIT's counseling center for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer students, is making a "It Gets Better" video. Come add your thoughts. What do you have to say?

Andy Liang is a member of the Class of 2014.

Evanescent evidence — where's the beef?

The IFC fails to understand what constitutes hazing

By Larry Galvin

In a self-righteous screed published in The Tech on October 1st, the Executive Board of the Interfraternity Council (IFC) purported to clear up the "facts" concerning the expulsion of Phi Beta Epsilon (PBE) due to alleged hazing. The Executive Board of the IFC apparently wants the MIT community to believe that Review Boards of the IFC Judicial Committee know hazing when they see it, based on the definition in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 269, Section 17. That would be a more compelling argument if the MIT IFC Policy for Risk Management properly quoted the definition of hazing, shown below with annotations for correcting the Policy's version to the actual statement of the law from the web site of The 186th General Court of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (i.e., the Massachusetts state legislature):

"any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether **on** public or private **property**, which [willfully] **wilfully** or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person."

If the IFC can't even properly quote a paltry thirty-two word definition of hazing, how can the community trust IFC Review Boards to determine when hazing does or does not occur? And how can the community trust those

IFC Review Boards with the truly momentous decision regarding whether to administer the "death penalty" to a fraternity?

My son, Timmy, was a PBE pledge last year and, theoretically, would have been a victim of the alleged hazing during PBE's initiation. To the best of my knowledge, neither he nor anyone else — including two individuals interviewed by *The Tech* that did not get into PBE — has claimed that they were hazed. As a result, any evidence appears — at best — to be evanescent in nature, raising the question styled in a famous 1984 television commercial as "Where's the beef?" And this isn't a consent issue, as the IFC President has tried to spin it, there simply appears to have been no hazing. Small wonder PBE claimed at their hearing that no hazing occurred.

Because no hazing appears to have occurred, individual members of the Executive Board and the Executive Board collectively seem to have been misinformed or irresponsible in publicly alleging that "[s]everal of the activities described in the evidence are explicitly enumerated in Massachusetts State Law as examples of hazing" (emphases added) and other similar public statements. Hopefully, before making such statements, each member the Executive Board read or re-read Section 17, which explicitly enumerates the following seven examples: (1) whipping; (2)

beating; (3) branding; (4) forced calisthenics; (5) exposure to the weather; (6) forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or other substance; or (7) any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Accusing individuals or a group of multiple violations of state law is an extremely serious charge, particularly in any public forum. The individual members of the Executive Board and the Executive Board collectively appear oblivious to the potential legal and other ramifications of such statements, if unfounded or untrue. If any of those statements proves to be groundless or a misrepresentation, I want assurance that the MIT administration will hold each and every member of the Executive Board individually accountable for their own actions and for at least those actions of the Executive Board in which they directly or indirectly participated.

Having graduated from one of our nation's Service Academies during the 1970s, I was hazed on multiple occasions. As a result, hazing isn't a mere academic abstraction to me, as it appears to be to the IFC Review Board

in this case and the Executive Board. Forced calisthenics? Been there. Exposure to the weather? Done that. Extreme mental stress? In spades. In stark contrast to the Executive Board's allegations, nothing I've heard or read about PBE's initiation sounds like hazing to me and, as an attorney for the last twelve years, I have extensive experience in reading and interpreting laws.

The bottom line is that the MIT community remains gravely concerned about the supposedly "transparent and thorough" IFC judicial process. PBE says that no hazing occurred during their initiation, and many if not most of the community seem to believe PBE rather than the Review Board, Executive Board, or Appeals Board. The stunning lack of credibility of the Review Board, Executive Board, and Appeals Board in this case appears to stem from violations of the IFC's own Bylaws (in letter and spirit), evanescent evidence, a rush to judgment, wildly disproportionate sanctions, and a rubber-stamping of the hazing determination on appeal. Deep down, almost every one of the other fraternities seems to realize that they could be the next victim of a similar IFC-driven travesty — and there's the beef.

Larry Galvin is a 1978 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, a 1991 graduate of the MIT/ Woods Hole Joint Program, and a 1998 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center.

Incentives to limit global warming require world cooperation

Global warming, from Page 4

erwise capitalize off of our unwillingness to go green is a fallacy. The belief that another country's rise or fall impacts our economic well-being in any appreciable way is unsupported by economic theory and disproven by empirical evidence (ignoring, for simplicity, the prospect of military confrontation, where relative strength does indeed matter). There is no race or contest being played out; the U.S. and China are not Pepsi and Coca Cola writ

Secondly, it misunderstands the nature of public goods problems, in which players benefit by avoiding the costs of providing the good rather than leaping headlong into them. When we offer to reduce our carbon emissions, pay for green research, or otherwise make some sacrifice for the global environment, we are merely generating a benefit for the rest of the world to free-ride off of, bearing the weight of having three men do the work of two so that others will not have to make the

ame effort.

Lastly, it misunderstands the nature of innovation. The word is tossed around like a magic wand, but it is merely a means to an end. National policies to subsidize innovation have no more a successful track record than national policies that subsidize capital formation. The policies themselves (usually large. government spending boondoggles like the Synthetic Fuels Corporation), are economic distortions — they place incidences on some and make beneficiaries out of others, but on the net, society as a whole loses. Innovation is doubly worse as a public policy — not only is it a distortion, but information creation is yet another global public good. Take, for example, the tale of solar power IIS compa nies, at considerable cost to the taxpayer, have made advances in solar cells, making them at lower cost and with greater efficiency. Their inventors have reaped considerable reward for the sale of their intellectual property. But nearly all of the productivity gains from those technological developments have gone to countries like China and Malaysia, the places where it makes economic sense to manufacture solar cells.

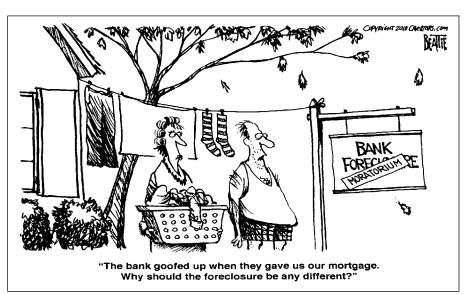
It is not in our national self-interest to try and bear the costs of global warming by ourselves. For a wealthy, cold, non-agrarian, stable country such as ours, it is unclear whether we even stand that much to lose from a rise in temperatures. There have been several studies that suggest the costs of mitigating climate change exceed the benefits in a country such as the United States — work by William Nordhaus and Robert Mendelsohn of Yale, Richard Tol of Carnegie Mellon, Melissa Dell and Benjamin Olken of MIT, and others, suggest this outcome is likely.

But even if we take the estimates provided by the advocates of aggressive action, the math comes up short. For example, the National Resource Defense Council estimates that if left unchecked, global warming will cost the U.S. 1.8 percent of its GDP by the year 2100. Meanwhile the Stern Review estimates the cost of carbon mitigation to total 2 percent

of world GDP by the year 2100. It appears that the hot areas of the world should be bribing us to take action, not the other way around.

More to the point, unilateral action will not mitigate climate change. The U.S. is only a small fraction of total emissions. Even if all of the Annex I countries of the Kyoto Protocol agreed to binding constraints, they would account for less than half of the world's total emissions, and a far smaller fraction of the expected growth in emissions between now and 2100. To act unilaterally, or even in conjunction with the rest of the developed world, would mean paying the full measure of mitigating climate change while receiving only a fraction of its benefit.

It is tempting to play the crusader, to make some moral, if futile stand in defense of our current thermostat setting. But we must be realistic. There is little hope of creating an enforceable global carbon constraint, and without the existence of such a regime, there is little point in surrendering our national economy to green adventures.





FILM REVIEW

The birth of Facebook

The Social Network might be the best movie of the year

By Joanne Shih STAFF WRITER

In the week and a half it has been since the release of The Social Network, I have raved about the movie to everyone I know, yet I hesitate to say anything too substantial about the movie itself. It is best seen with fresh eyes and no expectations - except, of course, the expectation to be entertained by a movie about one of the defining developments of our generation. Most people who haven't seen it vet refer to it as "the Facebook movie," and while it is indeed about Facebook (which, let's be honest, provides a good enough reason to go watch it), it is, above anything else, an excellent film, already dubbed "the best movie of the year" by numerous critics.

The film provides not only a great cinematic experience but a story that resonates strongly.

Based on the undoubtedly dramatized non-fiction book by Ben Mezrich, The Accidental Billionaires, the film revolves around Mark Zuckerberg, the entrepreneur who created Facebook during his undergraduate years at Harvard in early 2004, and the two separate lawsuits that soon surrounded him regarding the controversial management and founding ideas of the company. Perfectly played by Jesse Eisenberg (Zombieland, Adventureland), The Social Network's Zuckerberg is a winning combination of brilliance and social awkwardness that translates into an almost endearing quality of douchiness. We see this immediately in the memorable opening scene between Zuckerberg and his soon-to-be ex-girlfriend, Erica Albright (a deliciously biting Rooney Mara, who is cast to play the lead character in hit-novelturned-movie The Girl with a Dragon Tattoo), in which he effortlessly carries about five conversation threads at once, oblivious to her increasing disgust at his self-absorption until it is too late.

(I'm sure none of us at MIT can relate because here at the 'tute, brilliance and social awkwardness rarely exist hand in hand. As for douchiness, let's just say that Zuckerberg's jabs at BU, where Albright attends



Andrew Garfield, Joseph Mazzello, Jesse Eisenberg and Patrick Maple gaze into the future of everyone's social lives.

college, sound remarkably like jabs at Harvard often heard from the mouths of MIT students... But I digress.)

As comedic as it is intensely serious, the movie, directed by David Fincher (The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, Se7en) and adapted from Mezrich's book by Aaron Sorkin, triumphs with its witty script, impeccable acting, and breathtaking shots of Boston - shots that will delight any student who has ever fallen in love with views of Harvard Square, the Charles River, and other familiar landscapes. The pulsing soundtrack draws you in, whether it's accompanying a drunken Zuckerberg hacking Harvard's web system in his dorm room as glamorous girls line up for an exclusive Final Club party or a neck-and-neck crew race down the Charles.

The spot-on acting seals the deal, with impressive performances from Andrew Garfield (as Facebook's original CFO, Eduardo Saverin) who plays the betrayed best friend heartwrenchingly, and from Justin Timberlake (as charming-but-not-to-be-trusted Sean Parker, founder of Napster). The two hours fly by incredibly fast, leaving you

For Facebook lovers merely looking for tidbits on how our favorite procrastination tool developed, the movie doesn't disappoint there, either — we see how the infamous "relationship status" field came to be "the wall" and photo tagging get mentions as well. But for those who have somehow eluded the addiction or are looking for more than Facebook trivia, the movie pro-

**** The Social Network **Directed by David Fincher** Starring Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield PG-13, now playing

vides not only a great cinematic experience but an extremely resonating story as well, and one that will undoubtedly inspire future entrepreneurs. This is the movie of our generation — go watch it.

CONCERT REVIEW

Turn of the century glory

BSO performs Mahler's Second Symphony

By Sudeep Agarwala

Mahler's second symphony, the "Resurrection," holds its place among a handful of symphonic works that will necessarily end in a standing ovation. This is no mystery: Mahler's symphony is the logical extension of Beethoven's gargantuan Ninth, the "Ode to Joy," in scope, Mahler's second symphony more than doubles the number of performers in Beethoven's work in both orchestra and choir; Mahler's work extends the choral sections across two independent movements and the use of orchestral recitative far beyond Beethoven's work. In content, while Beethoven text is an exhortation to brotherhood and peace, Mahler's text is somehow more personal, more aligned with modern aesthetics — a call for personal growth and achievement, a prayer for personal actualization, a spiritual resurrection.

Thursday evening's performance of the work with James Levine leading the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus was no exception. Crowds of audience members roared for no less than three rounds of applause for maestro, soloists, orchestra and choir. This was well-deserved: Levine's interpretation was one that Mahler would have loved to hear. Levine's adherence to the Mahler's tempo markings verged on the fanatical, a careful reading of the work that, in recent years, has succumbed to the more dramatic readings

of contemporary aesthetics.

As a general rule, Levine's tempi were slower than modern performances have had patience for — today, we usually hear the entire symphony in roughly ninety minutes. Thursday evening's performance took nearly a full fifteen minutes longer.

Mahler's first movement was a calculated meditation between hope and despair.

It's hard to disagree with this decision. Levine's reading influenced drama by approaching the work intellectually: rather than sturm und drang, Mahler's first movement was a calculated meditation between hope and despair. A slower tempo favored greater attention to Mahler's indication of dynamics and articulation, allowing the orchestra to articulate differences in dynamics, accentuating the tension that motivates the central thesis of the work. The more stately tempo of the second movement was appropriate for the Austrian Ländler, and despite the more stoic portions of the movement, it was impossible to not to hear the humor in the movement. The third movement, a gushing orchestration

of a song from Des Knaben Wunderhorn, a narration of Saint Anthony preaching to the fishes, was somewhat less successful. Vivid colors emanated from the stirring Hasidic melodies, however, complex runs in the string sections became muddled

The final movements of the second symphony are fundamentally difficult to write about objectively, precisely because there's no performance of the second symphony that didn't end in a standing ovation. Mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill's tone during the fourth movement, the Urlicht, was provided a solid, yet sensitive to the intellectual development of the piece; it doesn't sound like high praise, but it is: the epic nature of the final movements often motivates oversinging or over-dramatization. None of this was present in Cargill's rounded, obedient tone that paid obeisance first and foremost to the development of the piece This laid a solid groundwork for the fifth and final movement of the work; soprano Layla Claire's rich tone was a perfect accompaniment to Karen Cargill's mezzo, and anyone dubious of Levine's tempo decisions saw the method behind the madness — orchestral recitative was bold and demarcated and choral lines followed suit; all of this accumulated in the massive catharsis promised by Mahler's "Colossus."

As viscerally satisfying as the work was, there's also a debate: yes, it's impossible not to stand and applaud at the end of the work, and although Levine's performance

Boston Symphony Orchestra

James Levine, conductor **Symphony Hall** October 7, 2010

remained faithful to Mahler himself, it's important to wonder exactly how much Mahler knew about performing his own work. While it's tempting to bask in the afterglow of the second symphony, it was hard not to find something lacking in the performance; there's much there, and it's hard to interpret all of it. Harder still if listening to it in Mahler's own distended rhetoric. Yes, as usual, the "Resurrection" was more than impressive. But it's more important to question how much more the work could have meant if it were performed with the modern aesthetic in mind, how much more an interpretation of the work would have meant to a modern audience, rather than attempting to recreate fin de siècle Vienna, and the that seems all so foreign nearly a century later.

The BSO continues its series on Mahler's symphonies this coming weekend October 14-16, with Mahler's Fifth Symphony and MIT Professor John Harbison's Third **FILM REVIEW**

The boy who doesn't get the girl

It's Kind of a Funny Story is a sentimental comedy about teen angst

★★★☆☆

It's Kind of a Funny Story

Directed by Anna Boden, Ryan Fleck

Starring Keir Gilchrist, Emma Roberts, Zach Galifianakis

Rated PG-13, now playing

By Stephanie Bian STAFF WRITER

Maybe you didn't get the girl, and just can't move on. Or the project you poured your soul into didn't go as well as you had hoped. All the deadlines and pressures are winding up that knot of anxiety in the pit of your stomach, and you just can't find any release. As MIT students, we've all been there. But what happens when it all becomes too much?

Based on Ned Vizzini's novel by the same name, It's Kind of a Funny Story explores the answer to this question by following the experiences of Craig (Keir Gilchrist), a clinically depressed 16-year-old who checks himself into a psychiatric ward after recurring suicidal thoughts. No single dreadful event led him to this point in his life — just the accumulated pressure from his prestigious prep school, father's high expectations, immature and insensitive friends, and (of course) his unrequited feelings for his best friend's girlfriend, Nia (Zoë Kravitz).

The course of the plot is clear from the beginning—depressed teen spends time in a mental institution, where other patients



Keir Gilchrist and Zach Galifianakis reflect on their mental problems.

show him how petty his problems are and the value of his life. Craig also predictably meets a girl, another patient named Noelle (Emma Roberts), who understands his problems and with whom he can connect. Unsurprisingly enough, by the end of the movie Craig leaves the hospital with a girlfriend, new and repaired friendships, and a brighter outlook on life. However, the story only skims the surface of issues at hand;

the details behind the scars on Noelle's face and wrists are omitted, and status of Craig's good friend and fellow patient, Bobby (Zach Galifianakis), is never revisited once they both leave the hospital.

Despite its predictability and shallow treatment of serious issues, though, the film does a good job of remaining light and entertaining. Between Craig's unfortunately timed stress vomiting, and the colorful characters of the psychiatric ward, there are plenty of laughs to be had. So, if you're looking for insight on exactly how to escape the depression that has snuck into your life, or a fresh take on the adolescent romcom format, this film might not be for you. But if you'd like to watch a light, sentimental comedy about the troubles of adolescence, consider It'd Kind of a Funny

IN MEMORY OF

Joan Alston Sutherland

It's difficult not to dwell in mid-century American nostalgia in remembering Dame Joan Alston Sutherland, who almost single-handedly ushered in a revival of bel canto opera. But so much more; the Australian dramatic coloratura soprano, dubbed as La Stupenda after her 1960 performance of Händel's Alcina, was known for her magnificent

flexibility and technique, her incredible range and her devotion to the performance as an organic whole. Dame Sutherland passed near her home in Montrieux, Switzerland on the evening of Sunday, October 10, at the age of 84. She is survived by a husband, son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

—Sudeep Agarwala



Are you a redditor?

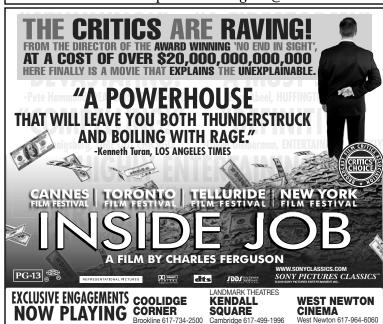
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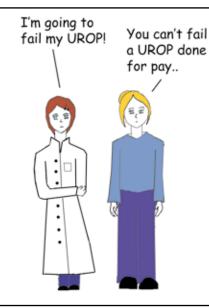
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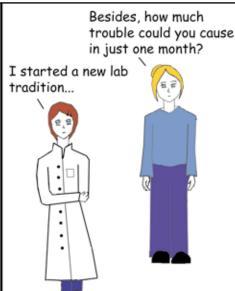
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC-COM

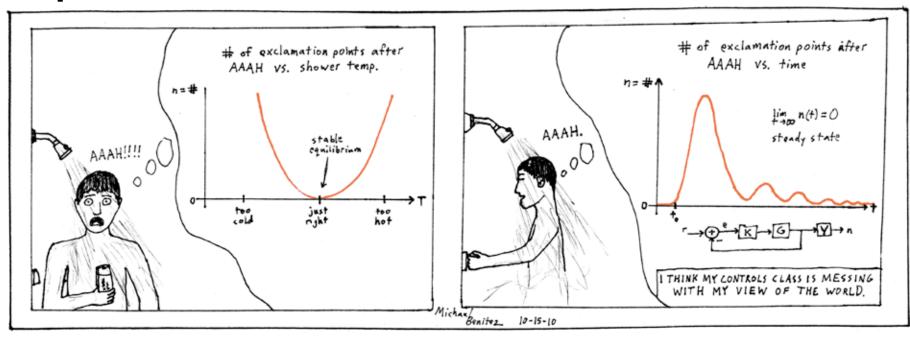
Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li







Help Desk by Michael Benitez



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Stamp pad
- 6 Best or Ferber
- 10 Writer Kerouac
- 14 Nile capital
- 15 Caspian feeder
- 16 Race in "The Time Machine'
- 17 User interface navigation technique
- 20 V x CCXXI
- 21 Leopold's co-defendant
- 22 Deftness
- 23 Base on balls
- 24 Nature watchdog grp. 26 Abbott/Haney board game
- 33 Audacious
- 34 Use a straw
- 35 "__ la Douce"
- 36 Actor Burton
- 37 GI Jill, once
- 38 Blood vessel: pref.
- 39 Finished
- 40 Betting pool
- 41 Spirited mounts

- 42 Futile quest
- 45 Rose of Guns N' Roses
- 46 Realtor's sign 47 Wet-eyed
- 51 French play part
- 52 Hi-__ graphics
- 55 Proceeding normally
- 59 Solitary
- 60 Plot of land
- 61 Relish
- 62 Defect
- 63 Spring event
- 64 Calibration **DOWN**
- 1 SALT subject
- 2 Drug bust cop
- 3 Ukraine's capital
- 4 Stretch of time
- 5 Aussie lefty of tennis 6 I've got it!
- 7 Wallop
- 8 60's war zone
- 9 Priestly garb
- 10 Abrupt yank
- 11 Jai __

- 12 Slinky shape
- 13 Murder
- 18 Powell of the Bush White House
- 19 Autocrat until 1917
- 23 Washington cager
- 24 Classic saga
- 25 Part of a litter 26 Fountain of Roma
- 27 "Bolero" composer
- 28 Exams for future attys.
- 29 Singer O'Connor
- 30 Impulses
- 31 Ammonia compound
- 32 New Mexico art colony
- 33 Squander 37 Hair of a goat
- 38 Track figures
- 40 Purulent skin eruptions
- 41 Francis __ Key
- 43 Marvin of Motown
- 44 Abstain from 47 Newsman Blitzer
- 48 Hydroxyl compound
- 49 Sicilian volcano
- 50 That was close!
- 51 Taj Mahal site
- 52 Rani's spouse

53 Earth Day subj.

- 56 Squealer
 - 58 GOP gathering
- 54 Hebrides island
 - 57 " bin ein Berliner"

More Things Than Are Dreamt Of



by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik





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Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 13

6			5	7	9			
						1		
	8		1					2
4	8 7		2		5		9	
	3		2 8 3	1	7		9 5	
	6		3		4		1	7
7					6		8	
		6						
			7	8	2			3

Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 13

4	8							
	5			8	7		2	
			2				4	
	2	1	7	5	6			4
		4		1		8		
6			8	4	2	1	5	
	4				5			
	3		9	2			1	
							8	5

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010 **10** THE TECH



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Anna Badkhen has covered wars in Afghanistan, Somalia, Israel and the Palestinian territories, Chechnya and Kashmir. She has reported extensively from Iraq since 2003. Her reporting has appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, The Boston Globe, The Christian Science Monitor, The National, FRONTLINE/World, Truthdig, and Salon. At MIT, she will discuss her latest book Peace Meals; signed copies may be purchased at the event.



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Campus gets 21st century makeover

By Susan Diesenhouse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Not so long ago, the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was a hodgepodge of bunker-like academic buildings, converted World War I-era factories, parking lots and even an occasional Quonset hut. But a 10-year development plan, nearly complete at a cost of \$1.4 billion, has set a new mood avant-garde — with 10 buildings by architects like Frank Gehry, Steven Holl and Fumihiko Maki, as well as a revamped streetscape.

The transformation was made possible by donations, portfolio investments and other financing sources like tax-exempt bonds - as well as profits from MIT's commercial real estate activities, many in its own Kendall Square/East Cambridge neighborhood. The university owns about 6 million square feet of commercial real estate in the neighborhood, in addition to the 11 million square feet that make up its 160-acre campus.

The president of MIT, Susan Hockfield, said, "The physical campus was not keeping pace with the leading-edge research of our scientists and engineers."

The university's property investments, on and off its campus, have in turn drawn other investors and tenants from around the world. That has helped lift East Cambridge out of its postindustrial doldrums, turning it into a submarket with global cachet. Just this year, Microsoft, Google and Sanofi-Aventis all leased space here. A few years ago, Novartis moved its global research headquarters from Basel, Switzerland, to a building owned by MIT next to the campus in Kendall

"MIT is instrumental in the success of Kendall Square as a commercial real estate market," said Hans G. Nordby a director of PPR, a CoStar Group company. Since 2003, Nordby said, 24 percent of the commercial space leased in the metropolitan area has been in Cambridge, although it has only 14 percent of the inventory, and 75 percent of those leases have had a Kendall Square address, he said. Much of the growth has come in the biotechnology sector, which barely existed 20 years ago, he said.

The timing of MIT's development was fortunate, with most of the financing and plans in place well before the economic slowdown.

"It's very difficult for colleges and universities to do development now with endowments down, the credit crunch, and if they're public institutions, state budget problems," said Randall Shearin, the editor of Student Housing Business magazine

At a time when few major developments have opened on or off campuses, the corner of Main and Vassar Streets in Kendall Square is a showcase of new academic buildings intended to promote innovative research and learning.

"Main and Vassar is one of the most powerful interdisciplinary intersections on the planet," said Theresa M. Stone, the institute's executive vice president and treasurer. "Therefore, leading edge companies want to locate here. We do the research. They develop the drugs."

In one of the newest buildings on campus, the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research. designed by the architectural firm Ellenzweig, engineers and life science researchers will collaborate in the search for breakthroughs in cancer treatment. Next to it is perhaps the most-recognizable symbol of the new MIT, Gehry's Stata Center, which opened in 2004. It brings together students and researchers immersed in artificial intelligence, linguistics, electrical engineering and computer science. (MIT sued Gehry and the builder in 2007, after leaks and cracks required repairs. The lawsuit was settled in March.)

By allowing greater collaboration, these additions are changing how teaching and learning are carried out at the institute. At the Koch Center, for example, engineers are using nanoparticles as homing devices to deliver doses of therapies or chemotherapy.

The university's new look also helps its neighborhood, said Peter Bekarian, a senior vice president of Jones Lang LaSalle, a real estate

When MIT enhances its campus, it resonates in the commercial real estate market," he said. Bekarian said Cambridge is recovering from the recession faster than other areas in the region, including downtown Boston, in large part because of activity in Kendall Square.

This year the Kendall Square/ East Cambridge market saw a net absorption of 120,000 square feet in the neighborhood's 13 million square-foot office and lab market. To equal that, downtown Boston, a 60 million-square-foot market, would have had to absorb 600,000 square feet. Instead, tenants vacated a million square feet more than they leased, said Rick Cleveland, the managing director for U.S. research services at Cushman & Wakefield.

Kendall Square's vacancy rate is 11 percent. But in the six premier office towers with river views, it is just 4 percent, and landlords are pushing gross asking rents into the \$50-asquare- foot range, about the same as prime space in downtown Boston. About 3 percent of East Cambridge's highest-quality lab space is vacant, and gross rents are about \$75, said Mark Winters, an executive director of Cushman & Wakefield.

The institute's commercial property activity here is run by a 16-person team that reports to the president of the MIT Investment Management Company, which oversees the university's \$8.3 billion endowment. Profits flow into the endowment, often as unrestricted funds, and are used for general operations, including on-campus construction. And when MIT sells a property, it retains a long-term ground lease. "We never give up land," Stone said.

About 10 percent to 12 percent of the endowment is invested in real estate, and about half of it is near the campus.

The institute has already started its next development plan, which may call for a \$1 billion investment on campus, although no projects have been authorized yet, Stone said. The university may develop an additional \$1 billion in commercial enace off campus said Marsh, managing director of real estate for the MIT Investment Management Co.

As an academic institution, MIT differs from its commercial real estate counterparts because it can invest with a 10- to 20-year strategy rather than having to generate short-term returns. On the other hand, when opportunity knocks, MIT can answer as nimbly as some of its private competitors.

This year, for example, the institute won two tenants who had been courted by other Cambridge landlords "very, very hard," Winters said. Last month, Sanofi-Aventis agreed to lease nearly 110,000 square feet in 640 Memorial Drive, an MIT building.

As MIT completes the plan for this decade, Marsh is already working on one for the next 10 years.

MIT has won city approval for a new 410,000-square-foot buildto-suit structure at 610 Main Street and is considering how to enliven the area around the Kendall Square subway stop.

Friday, October 15, 2010

Students concerned about new dining plan cost

Committee to meet Monday as multi-month process to select dining vendors begins

Dining unrest, from Page 1

Concerns over costs

Concerns about the cost were also expressed during the emergency meeting. "I don't want to move out of the dorm because I cannot afford the new dining," Veronica L. Barrera '13, a Simmons resident, said.

"I don't want to move out of the dorm because I cannot afford the new dining."

Veronica L. Barrera '13 SIMMONS RESIDENT

Baker Dining Committee Chair Cameron S. McAlpine '13 explained that the new dining plan costs more because part of its aim is to eliminate the deficit that the dining system has faced for the past several years. The dining deficit is estimated at over \$500,000.

"But financial aid will be adjust-

ed to the dining plan," McAlpine

Katherine J. Silvestre '14 from McCormick was especially concerned about the plan because she is a vegan. She said that it is not fair to require all residents in dining dorms to pay for the expensive all-you-care-to-eat plan.

"Go to any market and you'll know that meats and seafood cost significantly more," Silvestre said. "It is not fair for people like me to pay the same price."

The new plan will also affect residents from outside the dining dorms, according to Tim Jenks '13, a fraternity senator. He is concerned freshmen may not be willing to skip meals provided by the plans.

"Freshmen living in dining dorms are less likely to eat at the house because the house dining is more expensive," Jenks said.

As a solution to strong opposition to the new dining plan, the senators of the dining dorms proposed 42 U.A.S E1.1, titled the "Bill to Reform HDAG Dining Proposal and Process in Light of Overwhelming Student Opposition," citing issues with the process leading up to the dining plan proposed by the

HDAG

The UA noticed that minutes from last semester's HDAG meetings were no longer available online as of Wednesday night, but Tom Gearty, spokesman for the Division of Student Life (DSL), said this was purely an accident.

"We'll get them back," Gearty said. "They weren't removed for any malicious reasons; it was simply an oversight."

Sarah W. Bindman '13, Simmons' dining chair and a member of the HDAG, also took issue with the allegations that there was a lack of transparency. "HDAG did everything in its power to include students," she said. "I can say that it is actually quite frustrating how so many students can complain but not bother to show up to a house dining meeting to raise their concerns or ask questions."

Romero said he heard the dining plan would be finalized in early-to mid-October, but his petition, which had been two to three weeks in the making, coincidentally was submitted while the UA senators from the dorms with dining halls rushed to gain student input on the new plan.

RFP deadline drove lastminute discussions

The UA's rush to gather student opinion on dining was primarily a reaction to the RFP Evaluation Committee meeting next week. This committee comprises students, faculty, and Campus Dining administration and is in charge of choosing a contractor for the new dining plan. According to Michael E. Plasmeier '13, a member of the RFP committee, while contractors must adhere to specifications, they are free to choose the types and portion sizes of food offered.

"We're in a big rush, and we need all the support we can get."

> Alex C. Wang '14 BAKER SENATOR

"The committee will be evaluating the price versus quality trade off of each vendor," Plasmeier said. "As part of our work, we are planning on traveling to other schools to inspect

actual output quality of the various

While the new UA bill states "the release of the Request for Proposals (RFP) is imminent," Gearty said the process is far from complete.

"The RFP Evaluation Committee will *not* be choosing a contractor on Monday," Gearty said. "We are at the very beginning of the RFP process, which will take months." Gearty went on to say the committee is only finalizing the RFP document, which will then be offered to vendors that invited to submit bids for review.

Still, several UA senators felt the need to reach out to their dorms this week before the document is finalized. "We're in a big rush, and we need all the support we can get before students are forced to use this new dining plan," said Alex C. Wang '14, UA Senator for Baker House and member of the UA Committee on Dining. "We want to stop this plan."

If the UA is to stop the RFP before the plan is finalized, they recognize that they'll need to offer another solution that can be implemented in

Dining unrest, Page 13

Last Week

UA distributes survey to all undergrads; dining is one of several topics covered

Monday

9pm '14 sends his informal survey to Baker residents

11pm Andres A. Romero '14 sends petition to UA

Tuesday

UA Senator Almas

1am Abdulla '14 sends her informal survey to McCormick residents

1pm Emergency meeting scheduled by UA speaker Jonte D. Craighead '13

Wednesday

The UA releases a fact sheet on dining at http://ua.mit.edu

8pm UA emergency meeting

Coming Up Next Week

RFP committee finalizes its document that will be provided to potential contractors

HDAG meets to discuss recent dining discussions on campus

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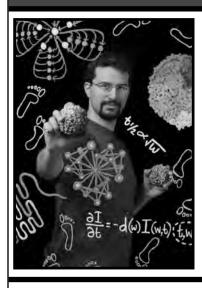








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Saturday,

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Institute, Chinese schools partner

MIT-China, from Page 1

interest in the area of Chinese art and culture and endowed a chair on Chinese culture. He has personally taught a class last November on the beauty of Chinese calligraphy and will soon teach yet another on the beauty of Chinese painting.

Such collaboration is not intended to be limited or narrow.

"I must emphasize that we are not looking for an exclusive relationship with any particular university," Khoury said. "We want this all to be a collaborative effort and to interact with as many top universities as we can, as well as working with people outside of academia."

A non-comprehensive list of current collaborators in Greater China include Tsinghua University, Peking University, Hong Kong University for Science and Technology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Fudan University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and National Taiwan University.

MIT has signed an agreement to work with Shanghai Jiao Tong University in science education and technology, as well as recently a tripartite agreement with Tsinghua University and Cambridge University to collaborate on low-carbon energy research, according to Khoury.

As for the recommendations of the official report regarding students and education, "We want as many of our young students in meaningful, interesting, challenging experiences abroad, and not to go abroad just to go abroad. Our goal is to have at least 50 percent of MIT students to intern or do service abroad sometime in their four years here."

"We plan to host three executive seminars for three years, which is a plan supported by Shanghai Jiao Tong University," Khoury said. These executive seminars will educate and train government officials and people in industry.

However, among all the collaborative efforts, MIT still keeps its devotion to its students front and center.

"MIT's first obligation is to its students, and we must not stretch ourselves too thin. The purpose of this exchange is not to teach China's students, but rather to teach their faculty to be better faculty, in essence continuing a trickle-down effect," Khoury said.

MIT continues to encourage international students for a diverse student body, just as nearly 40% of MIT's faculty are not originally from the United States.

"We want the best of the global talent, and it just so happens that a large amount of that is concentrated in Greater China. We want a flow of people from these countries to facilitate the collaboration, so we can identify global challenges and work together to address these challenges effectively," Khoury said. "MIT has no intention of being like an imperial power. This is a two-way street - actually, more than two-way. This collaboration requires mutual respect."

To encourage mutual respect, it all comes full circle back to the future expansion of MIT's curriculum, opportunities, and resources in Chinese language and culture, encompassed in the vision put forth by the MIT-Greater China Working Group.

"It was a bunch of very dedicated people working from all five schools of MIT," Zue said. "We're very happy with the outcome, and now our job is done, and it's time for the execution of our recommendations."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010

THE TECH 13

New plan could cause exodus from dining dorms

Some worry they cannot afford to stay in their dorms because of mandatory dining's costs

Dining unrest, from Page 11

the next academic year. If the UA bill successfully halts the new dining plan, UA senators will use new surveys to find out what students specifically want.

According to Wang, [information about the new dining plan] was received, but not fully understood.

Getting student opinions

This would by no means be the first survey distributed to students to gauge interest in dining.

"We know it's a pain to keep filling out surveys," Wang said.

UA President Vrajesh Modi '11 said he and Vice President Sammi Wyman '11 have only initiated one survey this semester: "Any other surveys that are taking place have not been sponsored by ua-admin."

"That being said," Modi added, "I applaud the outreach efforts of individual senators. It is, after all, their responsibility to represent their constituents."

Wang sent an informal Doodle survey to Baker residents, giving them the option to select "Yes, I approve of the new dining plan," "I don't care either way," or "No, I do not approve of the new dining plan." Nearly three quarters of respondents chose the last option, but McAlpine noted that this was a "very unreliable source."

"You could enter in your vote as many times as you wish, and you could choose more than one option," McAlpine said. "So, I believe the only votes that are legitimate are ones with the names of actual Baker residents." Only about a third of respondents gave their name.

Those that voted for the plan tended to stay anonymous, whereas many of those against it used the box for their name to voice their personal belief. "I'd rather gobble balls than pay that much for food," one respondent said.

Paula Trepman '13, Chair of the UA Committee on Dining, holds that no new dining plan should go through without the approval of students. "The UA position on dining is that we should not implement a plan until it is clear that the affected students support it," she said.

"I could have gotten enough information [about the proposed plan]," Romero said. "There was one page right before the housing lottery." However, Romero said that didn't include information on pricing, but instead offered links to the House Dining Review website. "Eventually, I could have found the House Dining Review site, but I didn't go through and I don't think others did either."

"We took pains to make sure it was front and center," said Gearty. "We also made sure the dining website contained the same information."

According to Wang, this information was received, but not fully understood. "From the start, I heard 'oh yay new dining plan," Wang said. His feeling for the new plan was then marked by a "progression to 'hopefully it's a good plan' to 'crap this is really bad."

After sending an e-mail to Baker residents outlining the estimated costs, Wang said he receieved an overwhelming number of e-mails from residents regarding the costs. "That was their first impression—why is it so expensive?"

"Students can eat healthier, more consistently and build community. That is worth it."

Sarah W. Bindman '13 SIMMONS DINING CHAIR

Dining plan could alter dorm demographics and culture

One of Wang's biggest concerns is that students are considering moving out of Baker to avoid paying the new dining plan's estimated \$2,900-3,800 annual price.

"We don't want people very comfortable in their dorms moving out. That is ridiculous," he said.

"There is no denying that having this dining plan will shape culture," Bindman said, "but in my opinion there are so many positive externalities: students can eat healthier, more consistently and build community. That is worth it."

Sara R. Comis '13, chair of the McCormick Dining Committee,

noticed similar concerns. "The main issue is that [residents] feel like they're being kicked out of their home," she said. Since McCormick is the only all-girls living option on campus, this poses a unique challenge for residents who want to avoid next year's dining costs.

One idea has been to establish an all-girls floor in another dorm. Comis says some McCormick residents and their families have specific expectations for safety and lifestyle when it comes to housing. Some parents may not be happy if their daughters could not stay in an all-girls living arrangement.

"Their parents would pull them

out of MIT," Comis said.

McCormick's emphasis on health-conscious living is another factor in the new dining plan. According to Comis, who asked residents to e-mail her with their concerns about dining this week, "a lot of people feel that with the all-you-can-eat buffet, the food quality will rapidly decrease." Comis then described one resident who was concerned about the new dining plan after an unsatisfactory experience with the AYCE dining offering during Interphase, a summer program aimed at minority freshmen at MIT.

The Final Report on the 2010 House Dining Review addresses this issue directly.

"According to Campus Dining, students in an AYCE system tend to consume more fruits and vegetables than in an a la carte system," the report says. "This observation is supported by data from the Simmons AYCE pilot last year, in which consumption of fruits and vegetables rose significantly during the trial."

Meanwhile, Wang recognized that there were major challenges with converting MIT to the system used by other universities, with large, centralized dining halls.

"If you think about the way MIT is organized socially, it's really hard for MIT to turn that way," Wang said.

What kind of dining do students really want?

If the UA bill successfully halts the new dining plan, UA senators will use surveys to find what students want specifically. For example, if students want breakfast, the UA will examine if either a large, hot breakfast or a quick breakfast offering will be preferred by students, Wang said.

This would by no means be the first survey distributed to students to gauge interest in dining. The UA distributed a survey to all undergrads last week, which found that 92 percent of those familiar with specific details of the new plan

do not prefer it over the current House Dining Membership.

Last semester, the HDAG asked students to write their opinions on dining in an online Idea Bank; the UA also conducted its Breakfast Survey Report, which concluded that residents are "more likely to purchase an in-house breakfast if it is a hot meal." About 60% of respondents in that survey said they would not support an increase in the House Dining Membership fee (currently at \$300 per semester) to support a breakfast service.

In fall 2007, the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee (BRDC) was formed to evaluate and identify any needed changes within the Campus Dining program. Its spring 2008 survey found that about half of undergraduates living in dining hall dorms, Burton-Conner, and Senior House, "think

MIT should offer an AYCE dining option". Between 65 and 69 percent of MacGregor, New House, and Bexley residents also supported AYCE offerings, according to the BRDC.

In fall 2009, when the BRDC issued its final report, the UA's Dining Proposal Committee recommended that residential dining halls not open for breakfast since they believed a "grab-andgo breakfast program" would be preferred. The UA committee also recommended replacing House Dining Membership with a declining balance program and establishing a centralized dining hall. In response to the BRDC, the UA found "only seven percent [of undergraduates] would like to eat all their meals at an AYCE facility, and only 40 percent would like to eat AYCE at all."

— Clara Park and Maggie Lloyd

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Solution to Sudoku

6	1	2	5	7	9	8	3	4
3	5	4	6	2	8	1	7	9
9	8	7	1	4	3	5	6	2
4	7	1	2	6	5	3	9	8
2	3	9	8	1	7	4	5	6
5	6	8	3	9	4	2	1	7
7	2	3	4	5	6	9	8	1
8	4	6	9	3	1	7	2	5
1	9	5	7	8	2	6	4	3

Solution to Sudoku

from page 9

4	8	2	5	9	1	6	7	3
3	5	6	4	8	7	9	2	1
9	1	7	2	6	3	5	4	8
8	2	1	7	5	6	3	9	4
5	7	4	3	1	9	8	6	2
6	9	3	8	4	2	1	5	7
1	4	8	6	7	5	2	3	9
7	3	5	9	2	8	4	1	6
2	6	9	1	3	4	7	8	5

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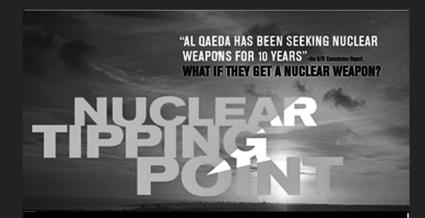


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Men found guilty of hate crime in death of Latino immigrant

By Sabrina Tavernise

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — A federal jury found two young Pennsylvania men guilty of a hate crime on Thursday in the 2008 beating death of a Mexican immigrant. The verdict was welcomed by Hispanic organizations, which saw the trial as a national test case for the treatment of Latinos.

The men, Derrick Donchak and Brandon Piekarsky, were found guilty of violating the civil rights of Luis Ramirez, an illegal immigrant, when they and a group of football players beat him in Shenandoah, Pa., in July 2008. He died shortly after from head injuries.

Donchak, 20, sobbed as the verdict was read in U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, in Scranton, and Piekarsky, 18, put his head in his hands, according to The Associated Press. The men face sentences of up to life in prison. Donchak faces up to 20 years more on an obstruction of justice charge and five years on a conspiracy charge. They are to be sentenced Jan. 24.

The men were acquitted of the most serious charges in a state trial last year, a verdict that angered Hispanic advocacy groups and drew criticism from Gov. Edward G. Rendell. The Justice Department later indicted the men on the hate crime charges on the grounds that they beat Ramirez because he was Latino and they did not want Latinos living in their town.

Prosecutors said Donchak and Piekarsky, both teenagers at the time of the crime, hurled ethnic slurs at Ramirez and told him: "This is America. Go back to Mexico."

The two men were tried under the Fair Housing Act, a federal law that makes it a crime to use someone's

race or national origin to prevent him from living where he chooses.

Donchak's lawyer, William Fetterhoff, said that the trial amounted to a case of double jeopardy — being tried twice for the same crime — and that the two were indicted only because the government was dissatisfied with the state verdict.

He said that the encounter was a result of young male aggression soaked with alcohol. "Once a fight among teens begins, then the sky is the limit for name calling, insults and foul language," Fetterhoff said Thursday by telephone from Scranton. "It didn't matter that Mr. Ramirez was white, black, Hispanic or shiny green."

The case had become a cause celebre for Hispanic groups.

"The verdict sends an important message that hate crimes are not to be tolerated," said Clarissa Martinez, director of immigration at the National Council of La Raza, a Latino civil rights organization. "In this case, justice has been made."

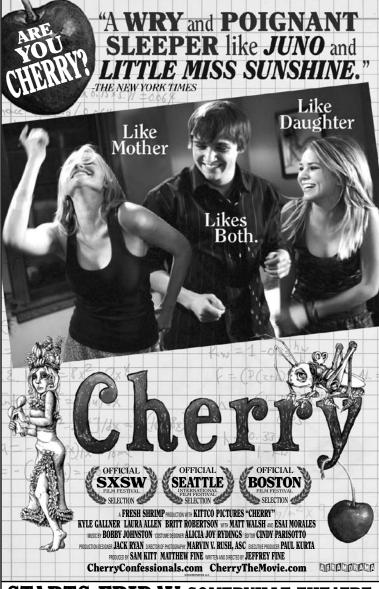
A lawyer for Piekarsky, James Swetz, said by telephone that the two men would appeal. He said the Fair Housing Act required not only a finding of racial or ethnic bias, but also that it relate directly to preventing the victim from living where he chooses. It was intended to prevent threatening situations like the placing of burning crosses on black people's lawns in the past.

peg in a round hole," Swetz said.
"There is no evidence that these kids knew that Ramirez lived in the borough."

"It's an attempt to put a square

Prosecutors disagreed, and managed to persuade the jury.

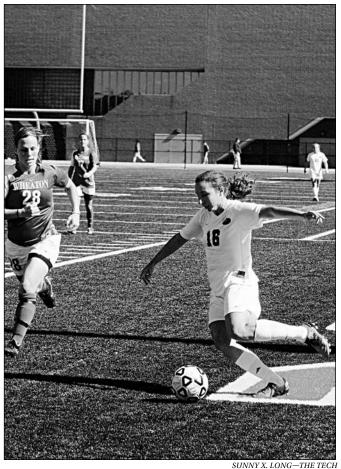
The case raised difficult questions that are rooted in the immigration debate that has swept the country in recent years.



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010 **THE TECH 15**



Casandra N. Ceri '13 advances the ball down the field in the first half of the women's soccer game against Wheaton College on Oct. 9. The Engineers defeated Wheaton 3-1.

Stem cell appeal brief filed

The U.S. government filed its appellant's brief before the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia yesterday in the stem cell case, Sherley v. Sebelius.

The government is appealing the preliminary injunction issued by the District Court in August that stopped federal funding of embryonic stem cell research. That injunction has been temporarily suspended by the Appeals Court while the appeal goes forth.

The government's brief largely reiterated arguments previously presented — that the appropriations act wording does not prohibit the work, and that the balance of harms does not favor the preliminary injunction.

The next step at the Appeals Court will be the brief by adult stem cell researchers James L. Sherley and Theresa A. Deisher; that is due on Oct. 28. The government will reply on Nov. 4, and the court will decide at some point thereaf-

While the appeal takes place, the main case is going orward in district court Both sides have moved for summary judgement because they believe the case can be resolved based on undisputed facts. Yesterday Sherley and Deisher filed their reply in support of summary judgement, and the government's reply is due on Oct. 28.

— John A. Hawkinson



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16 THE TECH FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010

S SPORTS SPO

The Tech's MLB Championship Series picks

By The Tech Sports staff

Four teams remain the MLB Postseason. In the American League, the New York Yankees swept their Division Series against Minnesota with ease to advance to the Championship Series. Their opponents, the Texas Rangers, recovered from two straight losses at home to win Game 5 against the Tampa Bay.

In the National League, the Philadelphia Phillies swept Cincinnati behind dominant starting pitching, including a no-hitter by Roy Halladay. They face the San Francisco Giants, who won a series against Atlanta in which every game was decided by one run.

Which two teams will claim their league pennant and advance to the World Series? The Tech's Sports Staff weigh in, with department bragging rights on the line...

Tech staff split 4-2 for Yankees to win

The Yankees will get the job done

Irrespective of the umpiring woes that plagued the division series, let's be clear: the Yankees and Rangers both deserve to be here. Phil Hughes's performance in the series-clinching Game 3 had to be reassuring to Yankees fans concerned about the viability of the rotation over a sevengame series. Aside from the installment of Hughes in the third spot of the rotation over the unreliable AJ Burnett, this Yankee team is largely the same as the one that defeated the Phillies in last year's World Series. In the American League Championship Series, they face a team that strongly resembles last year's Phillies in the 2010 Texas Rangers. Once again, they'll have to face a dominant Cliff Lee twice in the same series. Why do I expect the Yankees to go 4-1 and 4-0 in the games in which they don't have to face Lee? Texas closer Neftali Feliz didn't inspire much confidence with his performance (3 walks and 2 hits allowed in 1.1 IP) during the division series, C.I. Wilson and his Boise State-blue glove will be challenged by a focused Yankees lineup that gave him some trouble during the regular season.

The last reason is one that sounds quaint to Yankees fans, ignorant to quantitative minds, and arrogant to those outside A.L. East country. No matter how you slice it, this reason is readily apparent to Red Sox fans. The Yankee mystique and championship aura have both re-emerged. The inevitability of a second consecutive AL pennant is enough to suffocate the entire city of Boston. You have to listen to the games on radio to understand. On television, you miss the underlying trends and the logic that leads the game to unfold as it does. You see just how close the runner was to beating out the throw and trick yourself into thinking that some aspect of the outcome of the game was a fluke. On radio, the listener is made to interpret the game through the facts and insights carefully chosen and presented by sage announcers who have seen everything in the game of baseball. The announcers remind the audience of the score at regular intervals, tempering dreams of impossible rallies from tremendous deficits or expectations of an easy victory in the midst of a tight game. Radio forces you to fill in the silences of the broadcast with self-assessment of your own outlook on the game and the relevant teams. This is all to say that after the Yankees clawed back against the Twins to take the lead late in Game 1 of the Division Series, I turned off the radio and went to bed. With Rivera already in the game for the eighth inning, the Twins' was lost. This Vankee team will fin ish whatever task put to them until the task is indisputably overwhelming; that is, if you only kind of think the Rangers can beat the Yankees, the Rangers are not going to win this series. The Rangers are not overwhelmingly great, and the Yankees will take care of them in [# of games Cliff Lee starts + 4].

Prediction: Yankees in 6 —Zach Hynes

Rangers lack competitive pitching

The Yankees caught a huge break with the Rays extending their series with Texas to five games, since now they'll only face Cliff Lee a maximum of twice in the series. Sadly for Texas, their other starters are very hittable. The Rangers' righty-heavy lineup will be able to do some damage against Pettitte and fare better than most against CC Sabathia as well, but fortunately for the Yankees, Texas doesn't let its players run wild on the basepaths like the Rays would have (Elvis Andrus being their only real stolen base threat). Since Jorge Posada can barely throw out anyone, will the Rangers give the green light to more players on the basepaths and try to manufacture some runs, or stick to their patented

long-ball strategy? Either way, it won't be enough to oust the defending champs.

*Prediction: Yankees in 5 — Yifan Cao

Yankees, a no brainer

This is a no-brainer. The reigning champion New York Yankees will take the American League Pennant. New York's hard-hitting lineup and hot pitching will be able to take down their opponent. The Rangers will win one game against the Yankees (whichever one A.J. Burnett starts) to avoid a sweep, but they don't have the ability to do much more than that. And, I guess growing up less than 10 miles from Yankee Stadium makes the call a bit easier for me.

Prediction: Yankees in 5 —Russell Spivak

Weak bullpen and lack of Lee seals fate for Rangers

The Rangers finally won their first postseason series by going 0-2 at home but 3-0 on the road. Considering they have homefield advantage in the ALCS, this does not bode well for the Rangers. In addition, by needing ace and postseason hero Cliff lee to clinch Game 5, the Rangers will only enjoy a maximum of two Lee starts (if they can make it to Game 7). Squeezing two wins out of their other starters (CJ Wilson? Tommy Hunter? Colby Lewis?) and their weak bullpen will be a tall order for Texas. While the Yankees' starters will have to prove their solid outings against the Twins weren't flukes, their offense will tee off on Rangers pitching and provide them with more than enough runs. With a 28th championship in their sights, the Yankees just simply perform at a higher level in the postseason, and an upstart Rangers team will not be able to stop them. As much as I hate to admit it, the Yankees will be going, once again, to the World Series.

Prediction: Yankees in 6

Rangers will outlast Yankee's hot streak

Texas will continue to make history as they reach uncharted territory in the postseason. With both Nelson Cruz and Ian Kinsler on fire offensively (three homers each in the division series), look for the Rangers to slug it out some more. The Yankees to win their games when ace Sabathia takes the mound, but otherwise, Texas will get to the Yankees' pitching. Cliff Lee will not be matched up against Sabathia, all but guaranteeing wins in the games he starts. From an offensive standoint while the Rangers will continue to rack up the hits, the Yankees will cool down after their excellent performance against the Twins. The Yankees' experience might win them a couple of games, but not enough to defeat the Rangers in a 7-game series.

> Prediction: Rangers in 7 —Nidharshan Anadasivam

Root for David, not Goliath

It is impossible not to root for the underdog of this matchup, especially since these two teams are practically the David and Goliath of baseball; the Rangers just won their first port-season series ever, while the Yankees have more World Series titles than any team in the MLB (including one last year). While the lack of post-season experience may hurt the Rangers, they have a lot more momentum going into the series thanks to an exciting game 5 win over the favored Rays. Rangers ace Cliff Lee is a strikeout monster, with 21 in the 16 innings pitched this postseason, and Ian Kinsler and Nelson Cruz have both been hot offensively, each batting over .400 with 3 homers a piece. Enough said.

Prediction: Rangers in 6
—Carlos Greaves

Tech staff unanimous: Phillies will win

For the Giants, end of the line

The Giants, like the Rangers in their series against the Rays, were opportunistic in their series victory over the Braves, capitalizing on seven Atlanta errors in three close victories. As much as any baseball fan, I appreciate the attitude and the effort of teams like the Rangers and the Giants. Vladimir Guerrero swiping home while the Rays weren't looking during Game 5 was one of my favorite moments of these playoffs thus far. However, all the spunk, grit, and luck in the world are not going to close the gap between the Giants and these Philadelphia Phillies. At the end of the regular season, Roy Halladay noted that playing on a contending team like the Phillies "was fun, but it's only going to get funner." In the spirit of Doc, I'll say that the Giants have already enjoyed their funnest times.

Prediction: Phillies in 4.
—Zach Hynes

Giants hardly a threat

With the Phillies playing solidly and sweeping the Reds, none of the other teams left in the postseason stands a chance against them if they can keep up their level pf play. The Giants, however, do pose a threat with their pitching. Lincecum, Sanchez, and Cain will put up a good fight against the more experienced Oswalt, Hamels, and Halladay, but at the end of the day, the Phillies will bring home the runs. On offense, the Giants just cannot match up. In fact, during the series against the Braves, the Giants sluggers, maybe except the lead-off man Buster Posey, looked nothing less than sluggish. On the other hand, look for the middle of Philadelphia's order with Howard and Werth to heat up this series. San Francisco is going to have to rely on their bullpen, which might win them one or two games, but that won't be enough to stop the powerhouse Phillies from winning the series.

Prediction: Phillies in 6.
—Nidharshan Anadasivam

Strong pitching tips balance in Phillies' favor

Wow, how good are these pitching matchups? You'd probably give the edge to the Phillies' "H2O": Halladay-Oswalt-Hamels, but the Giants' rotation of Lince-cum-Cain-Sanchez are almost just as good. (And now they even have Madison Bumgarner throwing well!) Still, the Phillies are likely going with a 3-man rotation, and I can't see any of those guys losing twice.

The Giants will have the edge in the bullpen, but the Phillies starters will all pitch deep into games, denying San Francisco that advantage. Though the Phillies offense has a lot more name value than actual production, they're still more dangerous than the Giants lineup that struggled to score runs against the Braves (even with so much help from the poor Braves defense).

The Giants' pitching will try to keep them in it, but their offense just won't be able to do enough against the Phillies' starters.

Prediction: Phillies in 6. —Yifan Cao

Phillies are the experienced team

The young, upstart Giants had an incredible season and just defeated Bobby Cox's Atlanta Braves. But, experience will trump momentum in the NLCS — the Phillies are now veterans of the spotlight. I have faith that Tim Lincecum will be able to shut the Phils down in at least one of his starts, and either Matt Cain or newcomer Madison Bumgarner, the youngest Giant to ever win a playoff game (at age 21) can steal a game from the Phillies. However, the experience of Shane Victorino, Ryan Howard, and the rest of the Phillies will carry them to the World Series.

Prediction: Phillies in 6.
—Russell Spivak

Giants have weak offense

This series features two of the best rotations in baseball, and Game 1 will be will be a must-watch for every baseball fan. Roy Halladay, who threw a no-hitter in his postseason debut last week, faces Tim Lincecum, who tossed his own two-hit, 14-strikeout complete-game shutout in the Divisional Series. The Giants will win the series opener behind another dominating performance from Lincecum, but that will be their only victory. The Giants' weak offense is completely outclassed by that of the Phillies; they needed help from the Braves' defense to squeak into the Championship Series, and will continue to struggle to produce runs. San Francisco's bullpen is superior, but won't be able to hold leads if their offense can't score enough runs to take the lead in the first place. Philadelphia will cruise into the World Series and contnue to build its dynasty.

Prediction: Phillies in 5.

—David Zhu

Phillies are on fire

The Phillies, who won the World Series in 2008, are going into this series on fire. They have won 16 out of their last 20 games, including a sweep of the Cincinnati Reds in the Division Series. Phillies pitchers Roy Halladay and Cole Hamels both shut out the Reds in their respective games, with Halladay even throwing a no-hitter. The Giants, however also have a fantastic bullpen, which means the games will probably be close and low scoring. Whichever team commits fewer errors will win the series. That being said, experience will play a big role in the outcomes of each game. Who better then to win the series, than the team who has won the NLCS two years in a row?

Prediction: Phillies in 5 —Carlos Greaves

Think we predicted wrong?

sports@tech.mit.edu

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, October 15

Rifle vs. John Jay, Mass. Maritime, Wentworth, Rose Hulman

5 p.m., DuPont Range

Women's volleyball vs Bates College

7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Sunday, October 10

Rifle vs. John Jay, Mass. Maritime, Wentworth, Rose Hulman

9 a.m., DuPont Range

Women's volleyball vs. UMass-Boston

11 a.m., Rockwell Cage

Women's soccer vs. Mount Holyoke College

1 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Women's volleyball vs. Lebanon Valley College

2 p.m., Rockwell Cage